

JACK DOYLE MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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DOYLE UNVEILS COUNTY'S NEW HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE VEHICLE

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle today unveiled a 52 thousand pound, state of the art, hazardous materials (HazMat) response vehicle as he addressed the growing importance for community preparedness to potential threats of terrorism.

"There are no other vehicles like this in New York State," said Doyle. "The design for this vehicle was assembled from new features and innovations found in a variety of HazMat vehicles across the country. Our objective was to custom design this vehicle to incorporate all of the best systems available in order to better defend this community against a worst case hazardous materials scenario," said Doyle.

Count Executive Doyle also applauded the seven-member Truck Committee and four advisors that designed the customized vehicle over a three-year period. The technical specifications on the vehicle totaled 105 pages long. The Saulsbury Fire Apparatus Company from Tully, New York constructed the vehicle after winning the contract in August 1999. The vehicle will be in service beginning March 18, 2001.

The new HazMat truck, called HazMat 8, will be housed at the Greater Rochester International Airport fire station. A collaborative effort between Monroe County Airport Firefighters and the County's HazMat Team, trained specialists will respond to emergencies and maintain this vehicle on a 24 hour, 7-day a week basis. The HazMat team includes trained individuals from various volunteer fire departments from throughout the County.

The total cost of the vehicle is \$545,000, which will be covered by a chargeback to the spiller under a fee-for-service based charge.

"County Executive Doyle and the Truck Design Committee should be congratulated for their long term vision," said Rob Boutillier, Monroe County's

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HazMat Coordinator. "The modular construction of this vehicle gives the HazMat team the capacity to adapt the truck to new technology as it becomes available. The truck's technical capacity can be upgraded throughout its life expectancy of 20-25 years."

Specialized Technology Features of the New Vehicle Include:

- 1) A command resource area is provided so personnel can perform computer data entry and retrieval of chemical or medical information to achieve problem solving.
- 2) The radio transmission system is capable of secured digital voice encryption to ensure the highest security of sensitive information when transmitting. That is accomplished through Motorola's Secured net technology. Additionally, a complete wireless cellular system is available for Internet access as well as fax and printer capabilities. There is also access to a global information system allowing for detailed descriptions of the topography and infrastructure both above and below ground.
- 3) To assist further in these tasks, a fully operational telescopic thermal imaging camera system can rise vertical on a twenty-eight foot mast above the cab. Inside controls allow for panning and closing in on a hazardous material scene, eliminating the need for a reconnaissance team. Closed circuit viewing inside the command area by way of a monitor aids in the emergency scene "size up" function.
- 4) A weather station is mounted on the top of this vehicle to provide live onscene weather conditions. The weather data can be monitored on one of the four computer stations located in the command resource area.
- A specialized securely locked cabinet provides storage for the Tox-Box containing medical supplies used for the Advance Life Support Toxicology medications. These medications are designed specifically for field preparedness to terrorism. The vehicle also has on board an automatic electronic heart start defibrillator (AED).
- 6) For the optimum personnel safety the rear of the apparatus is equipped with a camera for backing up. A monitor and controls are located in the cab for the driver to see and position the field of view behind the vehicle.
- 7) An on-board convenience center (restroom) is located in the center of this vehicle for use by team members. Hazardous material incidents routinely last several hours and locating a restroom often becomes a logistical problem.

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